ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

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Press Release Announcement – (November 18, 2005)

- For Immediate Release -

Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 1 Percent From a Year Ago

Phoenix – On November 1, 2005, Arizona had 325,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 1 percent from a year ago. Placements last month totaled 35,000 head, 13,000 head less than in October, 2004. During October, 27,000 head were marketed, 6,000 head more than the previous October. On November 1, 2005, California had 545,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, 20,000 head more than last November. October placements totaled 64,000 head, down 6,000 head from October 2004. October marketings totaled 50,000 head, a decrease of 9,000 head from last October.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.5 million head on November 1, 2005. The inventory was 1 percent above November 1, 2004 and 4 percent above November 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.80 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 1 percent above 2003. Net placements were 2.74 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 880,000, 600-699 pounds were 790,000, 700-799 pounds were 600,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 525,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.74 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 6 percent below 2003. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of October since the series began in 1996.